



Volume 2006 | Issue 28

Article 2

7-15-2006

Editorial

Gwenyth E. Hood

Follow this and additional works at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/mcircle>

Recommended Citation

Hood, Gwenyth E. (2006) "Editorial," *The Mythic Circle*: Vol. 2006 : Iss. 28 , Article 2.
Available at: <https://dc.swosu.edu/mcircle/vol2006/iss28/2>

This Editorial Introduction is brought to you for free and open access by the Mythopoeic Society at SWOSU Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Mythic Circle by an authorized editor of SWOSU Digital Commons. An ADA compliant document is available upon request. For more information, please contact phillip.fitzsimmons@swosu.edu.

To join the Mythopoeic Society go to:
<http://www.mythsoc.org/join.htm>



Mythcon 51: The Mythic, the Fantastic, and the Alien

Albuquerque, New Mexico • Postponed to: July 30 – August 2, 2021



House of Stone

by David Landrum

Granite was not made to imprison, let alone
Contain, confine the mind, surround the heart,
And silence speech, paralyze flesh and bone,
As Jadis did with evil magic art.
Beasts, creatures stood in frozen parody
Of life, caught in their final moment's gaze,
Expressions locked in varying degrees
Of terror's fog or defiance's blaze,
Until the Lion came there with healing breath,
Restoring rock again to living being,
Reverse Medusa, healing stony death
With life to hardened hearts, to stone eyes, seeing.
Spirit and life he gives them. With a shout,
Like Michelangelo's *Prisoners*, they break out.

"House of Stone" first appeared in *Ancient Paths* in Summer, 2004, and is reprinted with permission.

#

MYSTERY: ILLUSTRATION IN SEARCH OF A STORY

Bonnie Calahan once more offers an illustration to invite stories and poems. Why are all those flying or swimming creatures converging on that circle of cloud or water? And what are they anyway? Do they include a peacock, a duck, a raccoon, a dove, a sea-horse, a monkey, a half-developed tadpole and an African clawed frog? Or are they completely different creatures? Is there an unhappy man in a tuxedo at the center of it all? Let your imagination flow. Submit your interpretations, as stories, poems, or story-poems for possible publication in later issues of *The Mythic Circle*.

EDITORIAL

Here we are, almost on time, and with another fine selection of stories, poems and illustrations. Scott Clements presents "Murderer of Days," another angle on the many-sided Faust legend. Ellen Denham brings us "Aldric's Journey," an excerpt from her novel-in-progress, *The Willow Maiden*. Those of you who saw the ballet based on the story, or the excerpts from it which Ellen shared at Mythcon XXXV (in 2004), will enjoy learning more. Bill Krapfel presents a story in the time-honored mythopoeic genre of the "found manuscript": the origin of the constellations as told by a certain Johannes Martin. Joe Christopher also offers a "found manuscript," a cycle of poems by the eloquent but obscure Nat Whilc, soldier during World War I. As experienced Mythopoeic authors know, the device of the "found manuscript" has been used by

(continued on p. 48)

HOME

by Berrien C. Henderson

After a decade of soldiering,
Capstoned—some would say—
By a rather clever bit of carpentry,
You'd think it a cinch
To get ahead in the world.

I was under the impression
That helping end a war meant
Writing my own ticket.

Not exactly.

Sometimes things much bigger
Than yourself interfere.
Life gets in the way of life.
That, and the odd layover
On the way home—
Drugs, monsters, minxes, dead prophets.

The whole gamut.

So I'd like to think that the asides

Between Troy and Ithaca,
Those ten years of holding my ego
Up to Poseidon's to see whose was bigger,
Amounted to more than a good tan
And bragging rights—

Home means much when it's far away
In the middle of the night,
In the quiet between breaths and heartbeats
When you're the most alone,
And Athena's thinking of someone else.

All you want is to wake up
With your wife beside you,
To teach your boy about hunting wild boar,
The trick to stringing a bow,
And to let someone else worry about stolen wives.

Editorial, continued from page 2

mythopoeic authors such as Wolfram von Eshenbach in *Parzival* and Edgar Allen Poe in "Ms Found in a Bottle." Among the Inklings, C. S. Lewis used it, most famously in his last book, *Til We Have Faces*. Now in Joe Christopher's case, it is not only the device that reminds us of C. S. Lewis, it's also the—

But never mind. Joe will probably tell us more in the next issue.

We are happy to have J. A. Howe again, this time with an improbable heroine who does not yet understand the source of her talents. S. Dornan and Dag Rossman tell of mysterious hauntings. Lala Heine-Koehn, Berrien Henderson, David Landrum, Dwayne Pagnotto, and David Sparenberg also bring us their variegated and exquisite poetry.

We hope that you enjoy the issue, and we invite your comments, most of all constructive criticism designed to help these writers improve their craft and advance their careers. We are happy to have two responses to the request, in our last issue, for letters of comment. S. Dorman's letter arrived in the mail, and we found Nescio Quid's somewhere—I'm not quite sure where. You, however, will find excerpts from both on page 59.